

**Project #9010  
Field Operational Assistance  
Summer Students**

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**BRIEF**

**DESCRIPTION**

The goal of the summer projects is to close gaps in our understanding of the production and pest management of specialty crops, particularly sweet potatoes and herbs, under Ontario conditions. Student assistance will be used to collect data on the major pests of herbs, to assess weed control options in culinary herbs, to evaluate lavender cultivars for suitability to Ontario conditions, and to aid in monitoring insect pests through the sweet potato growing season. This information will then be transferred to growers through OMAFRA fact sheets and presentations to grower groups.

**PROJECT**

**OBJECTIVE**

The objectives of projects for which summer student assistance is requested are as follows:

- 1) To scout various culinary herb crops for insects, diseases and weeds for the purpose of providing growers with information on the major pests of herbs in Ontario.
- 2) To evaluate various mulches for the control of weeds in organic agriculture
- 3) To identify lavender cultivars best suited to Ontario conditions
- 4) To gather baseline information on activity of insect pests in sweet potato crops throughout the growing season and to increase understanding of when damage is occurring.